CLAIM AMENDMENTS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently amended): A communications acquisition method, which comprises:

correlating a binary-coded spread sequence arriving at a frequency *f* and having *m* bits with a locally generated spread sequence having *m* bits, the locally generated spread sequence having *k* sections, the correlation comprising the following steps:

~~by phase-shifting a multiplicity of locally generated spread sequences with respect to the received spread sequence, correlating the received spread sequence with a locally generated spread sequence at the frequency f,~~

storing the received spread sequence,

~~and processing the stored, received spread sequence at an oversampling rate of i*f, where i is an integer, and~~

splitting the stored[[,]] received spread sequence into *k* ~~i~~ sections, and

~~carrying out the correlation in i steps~~

correlating the sections of the stored received spread sequence at a frequency *k*f* with corresponding sections of the locally generated spread sequence.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The method according to claim 1, which further comprises:

~~shifting the received spread sequence bit by bit within k cycles in k section variants each having m bits at an oversampling rate of k*f, where k is an integer, by shifting~~

upon correlating each section of the stored received spread sequence, shifting the bits of the respective section by one bit to replace the least significant bit of a first section variant by a succeeding bit of the received spread sequence and to shift a most significant bit of a section variant to a position of a least significant bit of a succeeding section variant;

~~after k cycles, replacing the least significant bit by a succeeding bit of the received spread sequence and repeating the shifting and replacing steps (m-1) times; subdividing the locally generated spread sequence into k sections each having n bits, where n is an integer, and comparing each of these sections with a section variant of the received spread sequence within a cycle; counting all matches and storing the count results~~

summing the correlation results obtained per section correlation step over *k* section correlation steps to obtain a count result;

repeating the shifting step m-1 times for obtaining m-1 further count results; and

carrying out a maximum search over all the *m* count results.

Claim 3 (original): The method according to claim 2, wherein a number of sections of prescribed length is k=32 and a chip length of the sections is n=32.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A correlator for performing a communications acquisition, comprising:

a FIFO memory having a memory input and a memory output, said FIFO memory inputting and outputting content;

a shift register with feedback for holding a received signal sequence in serial form, said shift register ~~being clocked at an oversampling rate and~~ having register positions connected in parallel to said memory input for parallel storage of a plurality of shift register contents read out in succession, said memory output being connected in parallel with said register positions for parallel transfer of data to said shift register;

a further memory for holding reference signal sequences; and

a comparator for comparing the content of said FIFO memory with a content of said further memory ~~at said oversampling rate~~;

the correlator programmed to perform the step of:

correlating a binary-coded spread sequence arriving at a frequency f and having m bits with a locally generated spread sequence by ~~phase-shifting a multiplicity of locally generated spread sequences with respect to the received spread sequence; correlating the received~~

~~spread sequence with a locally generated spread sequence at said frequency f,~~

storing the received spread sequence;

splitting the stored received spread sequence into *k* sections; and

correlating the sections of ~~processing~~ the stored[[,]] received spread sequence at a frequency of *k*f* with corresponding sections of the locally generated spread sequence ~~said oversampling rate equal to i*f, where i is an integer; and splitting the stored, received spread sequence into i sections and carrying out the correlation in i steps~~.

Claim 5 (original): The correlator according to claim 4, wherein said comparator has a comparator output, and including an adder comprising two-bit adders configured to form a cascaded interconnection, each of said two-bit adders having at least two inputs and an output, said output of each of said two-bit adders connected to one of said at least two inputs of a succeeding one of said two-bit adders, said adder connected to said comparator output and configured to add up logic values produced during bit-by-bit comparison for matching bit positions.